IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Valentino MERCATI Conf. 7193

Application No. 10/564,100 Group 1791

Filed February 24, 2006 Examiner Michael Felton

PROCESS FOR OBTAINING TOBACCO LEAVES WITH A STANDARDIZED NICOTINE CONTENT AND/OR IMPROVED COMBUSTIBILITY

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 25, 2010

Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action of September 25, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.